

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 12802 241703Z

43

ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 VO-01 SY-02 NEA-06 SCA-01 IOE-00

L-01 RSC-01 SSO-00 INR-05 INRE-00 /035 W

----- 108418

O R 241620Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 959

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 12802

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA CVIS PLO

SUBJECT: VISAS FOR PLO PARTICIPANTS IN UNGA DEBATE ON PALESTINE
QUESTION

REFS: STATE 231788 (NOTAL); USUN 4322 (NOTAL)

1. FSL TRANSLATOR IN EMBASSY POLSEC RECEIVED PHONE CALL OCT 24
FROM CHAFIC AL HOUT, DIRECTOR OF LOCAL PLO OFFICE AND PERSONAL
ACQUAINTANCE OF FSL, INQUIRING ABOUT USG REQUIREMENTS FOR ISSUANCE
OF VISAS TO MEMBERS PLO DEL TO UNGA. HOUT CLAIMED THAT MEMBERS
HOLD DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS ISSUED BY EITHER IRAQ OR PDRY.

2. DRAWING BROADLY ON REFTELS, EMBOFF INSTRUCTED FSL TO INFORM
HOUT THAT EMBASSY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH NORMAL USG PRACTICE, IS
AWAITING INFO RE OFFICIAL LIST OF PLO DEL MEMBERS AND CANNOT
CONSIDER VISA APPLICATIONS UNTIL SUCH INFO IS RECEIVED. (WHILE
WE HAVE SEEN VARIETY OF REPORTS IN LOCAL PRESS PURPORTING TO GIVE
NAMES OF DEL'S MEMBERS (BEIRUT 12661), THESE ACCOUNTS VARY
CONSIDERABLY AMONG THEMSELVES AND CERTAINLY DO NOT CONSTITUTE
ANY OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION.)

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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 12802 241703Z

3. HOUT, HAVING BEEN APPRISED OF FOREGOING, THEN ASKED IF SAME PRACTICE WOULD APPLY TO PALESTINIAN "INFORMATION" DEL--WHICH HE SAID WOULD CONSIST OF APPROXIMATELY 30 RPT 30 PERSONS TRAVELING ON VARIETY OF REGULAR ARAB PASSPPRTS--THAT PLO NEWS AGENCY (Wafa) PLANS TO SEND TO NEW YORK TO COVER UNGA DEBATE. EMBOFF TOLD FSL TO INFORM HOUT THAT WE WOULD SEEK GUIDANCE ON THIS QUESTION FROM DEPT.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WHIE WE EXPECT OUR RESPONSES WILL SATISFY HOUT FOR THE MOMENT, IT LIKELY THAT WE AND OTHER AREA POSTS WILL RECEIVE FURTHER PROBLEMSIN DAYS IMMEDIATLY AHEAD. WOULD THEREFORE APPRECIATE RECEIVING SUITABLE INFO AND GUIDANCE FROM DEPT. AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
GODLEY

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Disposition Authority: papenddr
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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TAGS: CVIS, UNGA, PLO
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